



Winnipeg Public Library Board

General Meeting

Minutes

DATE/TIME Tuesday, August 5, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
LOCATION In-person West Kildonan Library 365 Jefferson Avenue
Teams
CHAIR Lisa Laker

	Present	Regret	Absent		Present	Regret	Absent
Lisa Laker	☒	☐	☐	Councillor Dobson	☐	☒	☐
Nunziata Masi	☐	☒	☐	Councillor Wyatt	☐	☒	☐
Stephen Kennedy	☒	☐	☐	Abimbola Bello	☐	☒	☐
Jude Obidiagha	☒	☐	☐	Andrew McGillivray	☒	☐	☐
Kristen Hardy	☒	☐	☐	Jon Lamb	☒	☐	☐
Ramy Penner	☒	☐	☐	Melanie Ferris	☒	☐	☐
Karin Borland	☒	☐	☐	Ranbir Dhillon	☒	☐	☐
Trevor Surgenor	☐	☒	☐	<i>Vacant</i>			

Guests: Cindy Elliott, Dee Wallace

1. **Call to Order** – Lisa Laker

Meeting called to order at 6:04 pm

2. **Acknowledgment of Indigenous Territory and Homeland** – Lisa Laker

Winnipeg is located on Treaty One Territory, the home and traditional lands of the Anishinaabe (Ojibwe), Ininew (Cree), and Dakota peoples, and in the National Homeland of the Red River Métis. Our drinking water comes from Shoal Lake 40 First Nation, on Treaty Three Territory.

3. **Agenda** – Lisa Laker

See Appendix A for motion

4. **Minutes** – Lisa Laker

Tabled to next meet

5. **Manager's Report** – Karin Borland

See appendix B for report

6. **Chair's Report** – Lisa Laker

Summary
6.1 Strat Planning Committee Update <ul style="list-style-type: none">Meeting will be scheduled mid-August

Summary

6.2 Code of Ethics Form

- E-mail circulated August 5 to all Board and LAC members

6.3 Grant Application Update

- City has implemented a new grant intake process
- Concerns were raised if the Board would be included in the processes because of the definitions and criteria
- Thanks give to Nunziata for drafting an e-mail that was supposed to be sent to the City Clerk's department for clarification
- However, the Community Services Department Finance and Administration e-mailed and stated that the Board would not be part of the new grant intake process however, all reporting and processes for the grant would remain applicable going forward
- The Board's grant is subject to Council approval on a yearly basis

6.4 Recruitment 2026

- City's recruitment to fill 2026 vacancies on their Board and Commissions will begin in August and generally goes until mid-October
- Promotion will include e-mail to members to share with networks, posters, and social media
- Board and LAC members whose terms end December 31, 2025 will be notified
- See appendix A for motion

7. Treasurer's Report – Stephen Kennedy

No report

8. Library Advisory Committee Updates

Summary

Assiniboia	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trying to schedule a September meeting• One of the members will be attending a community expo at Dreamland Diner
City Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• June 25 attended the Corydon Family BBQ<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Jeannie Arnold attended○ Raffle basket was well received○ Would have liked a better location and a sign/banner on/at the table to better identify it was a WPL table• Next meeting September 25 at Millennium Library
EKT	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All 3 drop-ins at the local library branches held went well; summary or comments will be provided in future• Next meeting scheduled for August 7 at Transcona Library and have planned to have Kirsten Wurman, MLA Prison's Library present• Outreach updates:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Transcona Hi Neighbour Festival was rained out but was still able to have entries for basket○ Attended Happy Days on Henderson and table was busy○ Planning to attend Elmwood night market
LSWK	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting to be scheduled

Summary	
Riel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting to be scheduled

9. New Business

Naming Library Facilities Discussion

- Concerns were raised about the process followed for the naming of the Mike O'Shaughnessy Library and the role advisory of the Library Board (and area LAC)
- The name of the facility did not fall under the Welcoming Winnipeg process because it is a leased facility
- Lisa will draft letter to Board Councillors outlining concerns and circulate to Board members for review

10. Adjournment

The meeting be adjourned at 7:03 pm

1st Lisa Laker

2nd Ramy Penner

NEXT MEETING
<p>Tuesday, October 7, 2025</p> <p>In-Person Sir William Stephenson Library 765 Keewatin Street</p> <p>Teams</p>

Appendix A: Motions | August 5, 2025

MOTION	1 st	2 nd	DISPOSITION
That the Winnipeg Public Library Board approve the agenda as distributed	Lisa Laker	Andrew McGillivray	Carried
That the Winnipeg Public Library Board approve the minutes of April 1 and June 3, 2025 as distributed	Lisa Laker	Stephen Kennedy	Carried
That the Winnipeg Public Library Board authorize the Assistant to spend up to \$2,500 on social media ad boosts (Facebook) for the purposes to promote vacancies on the Board and the LACs	Stephen Kennedy	Jon Lamb	Carried

Appendix B: Manager's Report | August 5, 2025

1. Thanks and Acknowledgments

Winnipeg Public Library would like to thank the following:

- Jude Obidiagha**, for volunteering at the Newcomer Fair on Saturday, June 14.
- Lisa Laker** for helping to select the new Writer-in-Residence, to be announced in the fall

2. Facilities

North West Library

- On July 10, 2025 Library Services, members of the public service, and Garden City management met
- On [July 17, 2025](#) Council approved a motion by Councillor Sharma to name the library branch the Mike O'Shaughnessy Library

Millennium Library

- Downtown Community Safety Partnership (DCSP) is working with the City's Real Estate on a lease agreement

Fort Garry Library

- Roof leak has been fixed
- Windows will be replaced in the fall

Director Visits

- Cindy Fernandes, Director of Community Services has been visiting various facilities within the department
- 1/3 of library branches have been visited to date

Quarterly Report Update

- June 13, 2025 SPC-CS heard the [Winnipeg Public Libraries Attendance and Incident Quarterly Report](#) (January, February, and March 2025)
- Next quarterly report (April, May, and June 2025) is scheduled to be heard in September

3. September 2025 Hours

- Labour Day, September 1 – all locations closed
- Professional Development Day, September 9 – all allocations closed
- National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, September 30 – all locations closed

4. Recruitment

Winnipeg Public Library continues to fill vacancies. Current opportunities can be found on the city of Winnipeg's website <https://legacy.winnipeg.ca/hr/default.stm>

5. Youth Services Update

The TD Summer Reading Club is well underway with approximately 16,000 free bilingual reading kits distributed as of July 11. TD SRC is for children of all interests, ages, and abilities, and is designed to inspire kids to explore the fun of reading while reducing summer learning loss. TD SRC will run until September 1.

The Teen Summer Challenge is running until August 31. Teens (ages 13-17) can pick up their challenge card at any library branch.

Registration for August programs opened on July 7. WPL has 155 programs for children, teens, and families scheduled during the month of August. Partners include:

A special thanks to the Winnipeg Public Library Board for their support of the World Storytelling Series. Around the World in Three Stories will be offered in August at Millennium Library, with two more programs being offered in the fall. Families are listening to storytellers from the community and discovering the power of stories and storytelling.

We would also like to thank the Winnipeg Public Library Board for their support of the World Language Storytime Series, which is being offered in Ukrainian, Filipino, Cree, Punjabi, and Spanish in August, with more programs being planned for the fall.

July 27 was Library Day at the Ballpark. Despite the Goldeyes game being rained out, staff were available to check out books, process library card applications, and hand out TD Summer Reading Club kits and Teen Challenge Cards.



On July 29, Goldeyes players read to kids at 4 libraries: Bill and Helen Norrie Library, Pembina Trail Library, West Kildonan Library, and Windsor Park Library. These are popular events each year and 2025 has been no exception, with all 4 programs having full registration and customers on the wait list.



Fall Early Literacy Programming opens for registration on August 18 and will run from September 22 to November 25.

6. Adult Programming and Outreach Update

Programs for adults continue in August with Maker-in-Residence Callen Maude, computer workshops with partner Altered Minds, movies at Millennium Library, resume drop-ins, summer book clubs, a new Wellness Connection series at St. John's Library, Info Tables of visiting agencies including CRA tax/benefit clinics at several branches, and more.

For September many programs return from summer hiatus with book clubs, craft clubs, computer workshops, the community lecture series with University of Winnipeg, CLEA law presentations, a Made in Manitoba Book Fair with Plume Winnipeg (Sept. 20; Millennium Library), Queer Book Fair (Sept. 27; Millennium Library), Michif and Ojibwe language learning, and so much more. Our final term of the Maker-in-Residence for 2025 will be announced in mid-August to start on September 9 – her first day is PD Day. This will overlap with the current MiR for 6 weeks, offering plenty of Maker fun in the ideaMILL and branches in September/October! An exciting announcement will also be our new Writer-in-Residence starting October 1. This announcement will also be in mid-September. Thank you to the Winnipeg Library Board for once again supporting this program and taking part in the selection process. We are very excited by this year's WIR and the programming to come.

The Adult Literacy Program at WPL is expanding to a new site at Millennium Library. The current WELL program at Harvey Smith Library remains with Monday-Friday classes for literacy stages 1 and 2. New starting in late fall (approx. Nov. 3) will be a stage 2 and 3 program at Millennium Library for participants to continue their learning. This program is funded by the Province of Manitoba. A formal announcement is pending. Hiring is underway for an adult literacy instructor at the second site with a bulletin to close on August 11.

August and September will be busy months for outreach for Outreach Services and branch staff. Library staff will be attending the Austin Street Festival, the CW25/Play Now Street Festival on Graham Avenue (our first Graham Avenue festival), the NorWest Family Fun Resource Fair, Recovery Day at the Forks, the Fall KIK Off for kids in care, and the Live, Love Downtown Festival. Other notable events include the Fibre Festival (all things fibre arts), the Prairie Comics Festival being held at the Manitoba Museum, the Filipino Street Festival, and a Newcomer Fair being held in St. Vital. Outreach Services is also hoping to expand the Mobile Library program with a new site being added through December as a trial – NorWest on Alexander Resource Centre. Many more offsite events are also in the works.

A highlight reported by St. John's and West Kildonan Library was their recent visit to Modern Coffee. This neighbourhood cafe hosted the branches for a pop-up library and was a hit with customers. Library membership was offered (many new customers) with books to borrow, and staff spoke to library services and programs. See photo below.



Please check the [online Programs & Events calendar](#) for schedule details.
Feel free to share [Programs & Events Posters](#) with your contacts.